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A
DECLARATION
AND PROTESTATION
OF THE

Lords and Commons in Parliament to this
Kingdome, and the whole world,

Wherein (amongst divers of His
Majesties late illegall proceedings) is discov-
ered, how severall Commissions under the Kings
authority have been granted to many profest Papiſts) herein
nominated) for places of command in this waire, with
power to raise men and armes, which in sundry places
they have performed.

Also, how Sir JOHN HINDERSON and Col-
lonell Cockram were sent to *Hamburg* and *Denmarke*, to
raise Forces there, and in other forraigne parts, to bring into this
Kingdome. With the names of some who have been proclaimed
Rebels in *Ireland*, Now in great favour with his Majesty.

For which and many other reasons they are resolved to en-
ter into a solemne oath and covenant with God to the utmost
of their power, with the hazard of their lives and fortunes
to defend the truth against the KING'S popish
Army, and all that shall joyne with them in the pro-
secution of this wicked designe.

Die Sabbathi Octob. 22. 1647.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, That this De-
claration shall bee forthwith printed and published, and read in all
Churches and Chappels within the Kingdome of England, and Domi-
nion of Wales, by the Parsons, Vicars, Curats of the same.

J. Brown. Cler. Parliamentorum.

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Kings-head in Fleet-Street. MDCXLII.



A
DECLARATION
 AND
PROTESTATION
 OF THE
LORDS and COMMONS
 Assembled in PARLIAMENT.

WE the Lords and Commons in this present Parliament assembled doe in the presence of Almighty God, for the satisfaction of our owne consciences, and discharge of that great trust which lies upon us, make this Protestation, and Declaration to this Kingdome and Nation, and to the whole World, That no private passion or respect, no evill intention to his Majesties Person, no designe to the prejudice of his just honour and authority engaged us to raise Forces, and take up Armes against the Authors of this Warre, wherewith the Kingdome is now inflamed,

And wee have alwayes desired from our hearts and soules

manifested in our actions and proceedings, and in severall humble Petitions and Remonstrances to His Majesty professed our Loyalty, and Obedience to his Crowne, readinesse and resolution to defend His Person, and support His estate with our lives and fortunes, to the uttermost of our power.

That wee have beene willing to passe by not onely those injuries, ignominies, slanders and false accusations, wherewith wee have beene privately oppressed and grieved, but likewise meny publique incroachments and high usurpation to the prejudice of Religion and Liberty, diverts bloody Trayterous and cruell practises and designses for the utter ruine and destruction of the Church and State. so as wee might for the time to come have beene secured from that wicked and malignant partie, those pernicious and Trayterous Councells, who have beene the Authours and fomentours of the former mischiefs and present calamities, which have and still doe distemper this Church and State.

That for the same purpose, and for the avoyding of blood wee directed the Earle of *Essex* Lord Generall by himselfe or others, in some safe and honourable way to cause to be delivered an humble Petition, wherein we do desire nothing from his Majesty, but that hee would returne in peace to his Parliament, and by their faithfull Councell and advise, compose the distempers and confusions abounding in His Kingdomes, as he is bound to do; we therein professing in the sight of Almighty God, which is the strongest Obligation and assurance that any Christian, and the most solemn publique faith which any such State as a Parliament can give, that wee would receive him with all honour, yeeld Him all true Obedience and Subjectiōn, and faithfully endeavour to defend His Person and estate, from all danger, and to the uttermost of our power, to establish

to Him, and to his People, all the blessings of a glorious and happy Reigne, as it is more largely exprest in that Petition.

For the delivery of which Petition, his Excellencie hath twice sent unto the King, humbly desiring a safe Conduct for those who should be employed therein, but His Majesty refused to give any such safe Conduct, or to receive this humble and dutifull Petition by any addressse from the Earle of *Essex*, saying, that if Iustice had beene done the Gentleman which brought the second Message could not expect his liberty.

By all which and many other evidences and inducements, we are fully convinc'd in our judgements and beliefe, that the Kings Councils, and Resolutions are so engaged to the Popish Party, for the suppression and extirpation of the true Religion, that all hopes of peace and protection are excluded, and that it is fully intended to give satisfaction to the *Papists* by alteration of Religion, and to the Cavalliers and other soldiers, by exposing the wealth of the good Subjects, especially of this Citie of *London*, to be sackt, plundered and spoyled by them.

That for the better effecting hereof, great numbers of *Papists* have in shew conformed themselves to the Protestant Religion by comming to the Church, receiving the Sacrament, and taking the Oathes of Allegiance and Supremacie, which some of their owne Priests have encouraged them to doe, by maintaining that they might do all those things, and yet continue good Catholiques, under which cover his Majestie did at first begin to strengthen himselfe, those of that Religion being weake, and unable to endure the envy and discontent which the arming of the *Papists* would procure in the Kingdome, and therefore endeavoured to keepe off all jealousies and suspicions by many fearfull Oathes and Imprecations, concerning his purpose of maintaining the Prote-

stant Religion, and the Lawes of the Kingdom, causing some profest Papists to be discharged out of his Army, and none to be received that would not endure the test of comming to Church, receiving the Sacrament, and taking the Oaths of Allegiance.

That his Majestie being now growne stronger, and able as he conceives to make good his owne ends by Armes, His confidence in the *Papists* doth more clearly appeare; persons imprison'd for Priests and Iesuites have beene released out of the Goale of *Lancaster*, profest Papists have beene invited to rise and take up Armes, Commissions under his Maiesties authority have bin granted to many of them for places of command in this War, with power to raise men; and great numbers have beene raised by them, and they dayly increase, as namely to Sir *Nicholas Thornton*, Sir *Thomas Howard* Barro-net, Sir *Edward Widdington*, Sir *William Riddell*, Mr. *Smith* of *Ash*, Mr. *George Wray*, Mr. *Edward Grey* of *Morpeth-castle*, Mr. *Lancelot Errington* of *Dento*, Mr. *Lancelot Holtby* all of *Northumberland*, Bishoprick of *Durham* and *New-castle*; to Mr. *Clifton*, Mr. *William Walton*, Sir *William Gerrard* Barro-net, Sir *Cecill Strafford*, Mr. *Anderson* of *Loftock* in the County of *Lancaster*, and divers Forces are raised and paid by the Earle of *Worcester* and his Sonne the Lord *Herbert*, & as we are informed by an expres messenger sent from those parts: The said Lord *Herbert* a notorious Papist is made Generall of all *South-wals*; and wee are further informed out of *Yorkshire* by divers persons of great worth and quality, that those that raise Forces in those Parts for his Majesty, doe arme and imploy Papists and use their advice in their Consultations: All which is contrary to the solemn Oathes, Protestations and Execrations, whereby his Majesty bound himselfe to mainrain the Protestant Religion, and the Lawes of the Land: By which he endeavoured to get a confidence in the People of his good intentions, which how well it is answered,

swered, wee leave the world to judge.

That Sir *Iohn Hinderson* and Collonel *Cokram*, men of ill report both for Religion and Honesty, are sent to *Hamburg* and *Denmarke*, as we are credibly informed, to raise Forces there, and to bring them to *New-castle*, and to joyne with the Earle of *New-castle*, and the Army of Papists which they intend to raise there; And that divers endeavours have beene used in other Forreign Parts, to bring in strange Forces into the Kingdome; That the King hath received about him divers Papists of *Ireland*, some of which are indited of high Treason for their Rebellion there, notoriously knowne to have beene in actuall Rebellion; as namely, the Lord *Tasse*, Sir *Iohn Dugane*, proclaimed a Rebel; Collonel *Fitzwilliams* Dr. *Meara* indited for the Rebellion in *Ireland*, and fled for the same, and yet appointed Physitian to Prince *Rupert*; And that his Majesty hath sent for the Petition of the Irish Rebels which the Iustices had stoppt, with evident expression of favour to them, whereby that Kingdome is like to become an unfit Habitation of any Protestants, and a Seminary of War and Treason against this Kingdome.

That divers English Traytors, Actors in the former Designs against the Kingdome and Parliament, are chiefe Counsellors and Actors in this unnaturall Warre against his Subjects, as the Lord *Digby*, *Oneale*, *Wilmot*, *Pollard*, *Asburnham* and others.

That we have been likewise credibly informed that divers Iesuites and Priests in forreigne Parts make great collections of money for reliefe of the Papists in *Ireland*, and the furthering of his Majesties Designs here against the Parliament, and that by them and some others fled out of this Kingdome for Treason, great meanes are made to take up the differences betwixt some Princes of the Roman Religion, that so they might unite their strength for the extirpation of the Protestant Religion, wherein principally this Kingdome and
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the Kingdome of *Scotland* are concerned, as making the greatest Body of the reformed Religion in Christendome, and best able to defend themselves, and succour other Churches.

For all which Reasons wee are resolved to enter into a solemn Oath and Covenant with God, to give up our selves, our Lives and Fortunes into his hands: And that wee will to the utmost of our power and judgement maintaine his truth, and conforme our selves to his will, that we will defend this Cause with the hazard of our Lives against the Kings Army, and against all that shall joyne with them in prosecution of this wicked Designe, according to the Forme to bee agreed upon by both Houses of Parliament, to be subscribed by our hands. And that wee will for the same ends associate our selves, and unite withall the wellaffected in the Citie of *London* and other parts of his Majesties Domions.

That wee expect our Brethren of *Scotland*, according to the Act of Pacification, whereby the two Kingdomes are mutually bound to suppress all Debates and Differences to the disturbance of the publique Peace, That they will helpe and assist us in defence of this Cause; which if the Popish Party prevaile, must needs either involve them in that alteration of Religion which will bee made heere, or engage them in a Warre against this Kingdome, to defend their own Religion and Liberty. And wee doubt not but the God of Truth, and the great Protector of his People will assist and enable us in this our just Defence, to restrain the inalice and fury of those that seeke our ruine; and to secure the Persons, Estates and Liberties of all that joyne with us: And to procure and establish the safety of Religion, and fruition of our Lawes and Liberties, in this and all other his Majesties Dominions, which we do here againe professe before the ever-living God, to be the chiefe end of all our Counsels and Resolutions, without any intention or desire to hurt or injure his Majesty, either in his Person or just Power.

FINIS.